



**NORTH DAKOTA**  
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:  
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### ***Risk Watch*® Program To Be Piloted in Five North Dakota Schools**

BISMARCK, N.D. – This fall, five North Dakota schools will pilot the *Risk Watch*® Champion Program, according to Howard Walth, Emergency Medical Services for Children program manager with the North Dakota Department of Health.

Developed by the National Fire Protection Association, the *Risk Watch*® Champion Program focuses on reducing unintentional childhood death and injuries by giving teachers, parents and safety advocates the tools to teach children how to make positive choices every day and to prepare them for unexpected events. *Risk Watch*® teaches children how to recognize and avoid unintentional injuries, the number one killer of children 14 and younger in the United States.

In North Dakota, the *Risk Watch*® Program will train Champion Team members from each of the pilot schools to serve as education resources for classroom teachers in implementing the curriculum during the 2004-2005 school year. The five North Dakota pilot schools are Hebron Public School, Hebron, N.D.; Martin Luther Elementary School, Bismarck, N.D.; St. Anne School, Bismarck, N.D.; Turtle Lake – Mercer Public School, Turtle Lake, N.D.; and Wishek Public School, Wishek, N.D. Educational topics include falls prevention, fire and burn prevention, firearms injury prevention, water injury prevention, and bike and pedestrian safety.

The *Risk Watch*® Champion Program in North Dakota is supported by the North Dakota Department of Health, the North Dakota Firefighters Association, the Bismarck Police Department, and the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

For more information, contact Howard Walth, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2953.

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